

The Gregory Normal Institute. Wilmington, N. C.

Jacob H. Arnold, B.A., Principal

THE American Missionary Association began its work among the Freedmen in Wilmington, April 3, 1865. Eight teachers opened four day schools in four churches. Later, the number of teachers reached 14, and other schools were opened, two of them in private houses.

In one church there were 300 scholars, ranging from five to twenty-five years of age, who did not know a letter of the alphabet. Afternoon schools were opened for women, and night schools for both sexes. Many army officers and soldiers entered heartily into the night-school work.

In 1868, the schools were removed to a new building erected through the liberality of Mr. Williston, of Northampton, Mass.

For several years the school was known as the Wilmington Normal School, and later as the New Hampshire Memorial Institute. In 1881, Hon. J. H. Gregory, of Marblehead, Mass., became interested in this field. He erected a brick church, a three-story brick building for the teachers' home, and enlarged the school building. In recognition of his generous gifts, the name of the school was changed in 1883 to Gregory Normal Institute. The present value of the school property is \$30,000. The enrollment in 1908 was 10 teachers and 281 students. The annual expenses

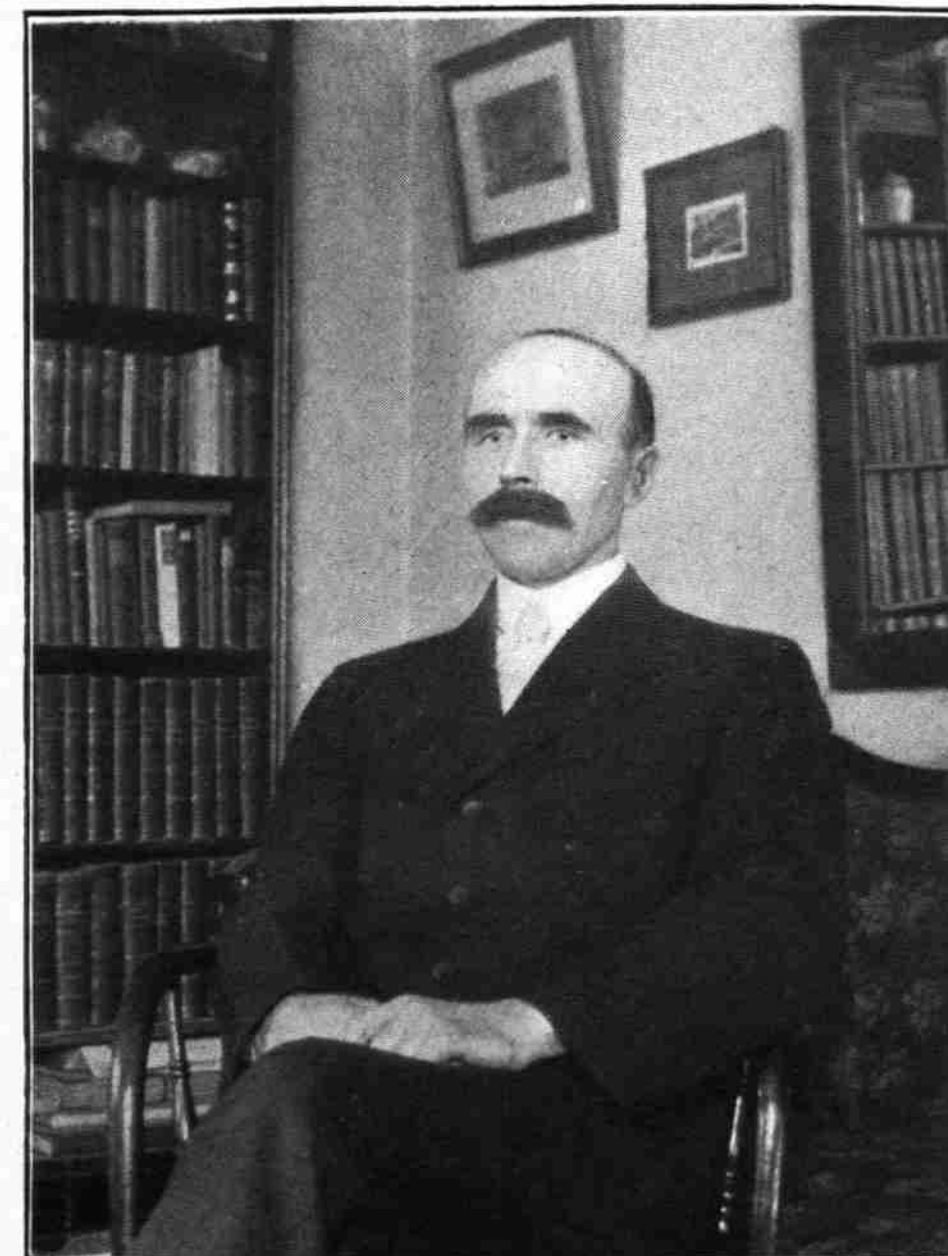
are \$5,000, largely provided by the American Missionary Association. In 1907, the Association contributed for salaries, general expenses, furniture, and repairs, \$5,258. The Daniel Hand Fund contributed \$400 on teachers' salaries.

The full course of study for the school extends over a period of twelve years, and is designed to prepare students for teaching, for business life, or for college. Bible study is made prominent throughout the course.

For more than twenty years there has been an annual average of 300 students receiving instruction at the institute. Graduates of Gregory fill the greater number of the positions in the public schools of the city, and may be found through the county and state, while some are teaching in adjoining states.

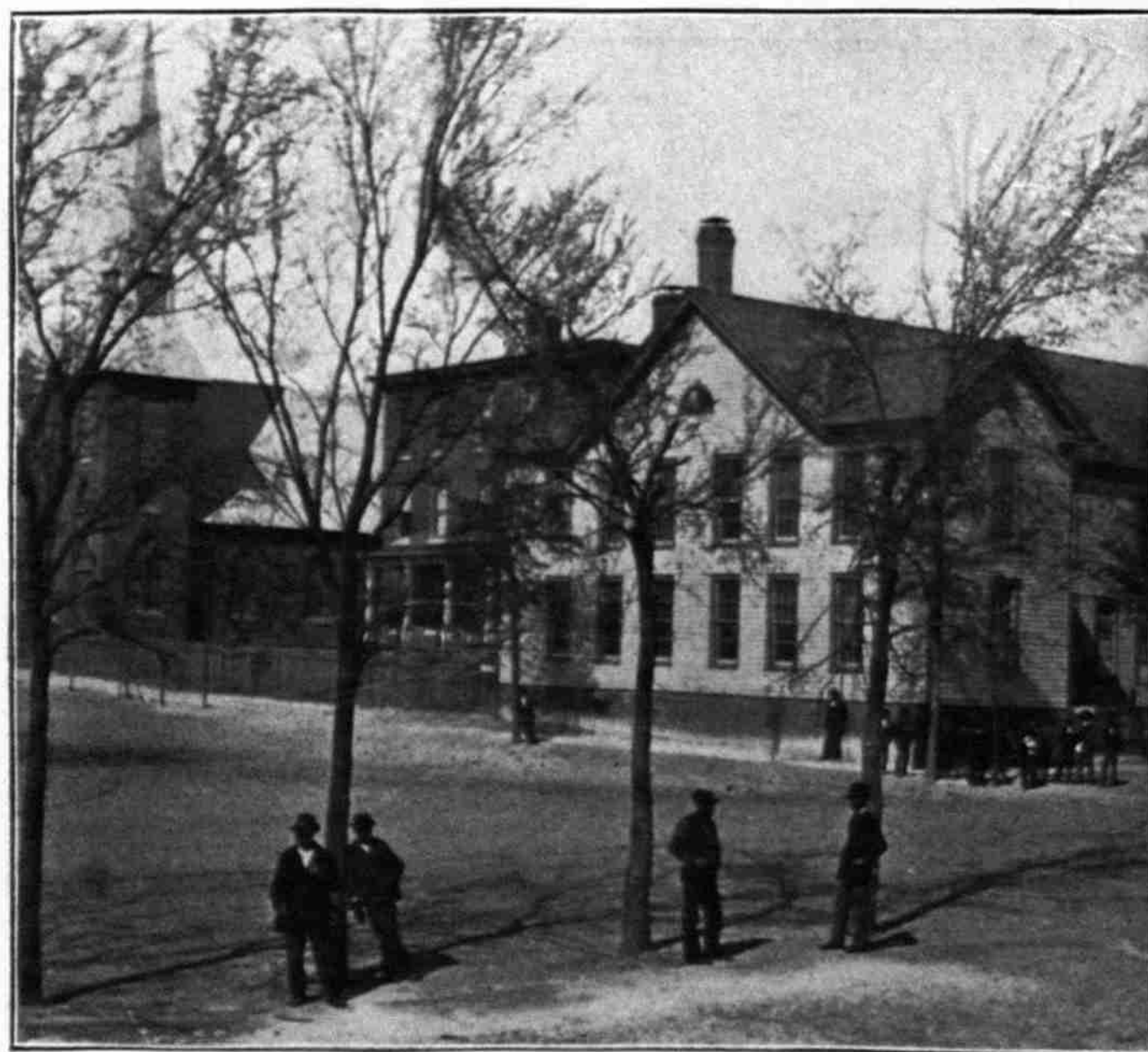
"It Pays to Educate the Negro"

Prof. George A. Woodward, who spent more than seventeen years among these people, declares his belief that it pays to educate the Negro. He says: "Education may have spoiled quite a goodly number for washing dishes, sawing wood, or being bootblacks, but some of these people are now potent factors in the uplift and salvation of their race."



JACOB H. ARNOLD, B.A.

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CHURCH AND SCHOOL, GREGORY NORMAL INSTITUTE